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United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement on Uzbek Currency Convertibility

As delivered by Ambassador Stephan M. Minikes to the Permanent Council, Vienna October 23, 2003

Mr. Chairman, the United States also thanks the Uzbek delegation for this welcome news on full convertibility of the Uzbek soum.

We are especially pleased that Uzbekistan is complying with IMF recommendations on convertibility. This was an issue that we included in our statement when Ambassador Erozan addressed the PC and we're encouraged that Uzbekistan has acted. We view this as an extremely important step torward greater economic modernization and full integration into the world economy.

Again, we commend Uzbekistan for taking this step.